

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. ____

Introduced by: **Summers**

A HOUSE RESOLUTION urging the Indiana General Assembly to create a summer study committee to evaluate and make recommendations on matters relating to foster youth.

Whereas, in 2005, 4.9 percent of Indiana's children living in out-of-home care were emancipated from the child welfare system.

Whereas, these emancipated youth face numerous barriers to success which can lead to poverty, homelessness and involvement with the Department of Corrections.

Whereas, one barrier to fully achieve independence for foster youth is the struggle of getting someone to sign for them and to obtain insurance coverage to obtain a driver's license.

Whereas, learning to drive is an important independent learning skill that is crucial to obtaining employment, fitting in with friends and juggling multiple responsibilities at home, work and school.



Whereas, the Indiana Advisory Council composed of current and former foster youth have identified the need for a driver's license as one of their key issues in achieving self-sufficiency.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly acknowledges the importance of learning to drive as a critical independent living skill.

SECTION 2. That foster youth who are age appropriate should receive serious consideration for learning to drive as an independent living skill.

SECTION 3. That the Indiana General Assembly will assign this matter to the appropriate summer study committee to evaluate this matter and make recommendations that will help foster youth achieve the necessary training and supports to acquire driving skills.

